

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-referenced application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1-61 (Canceled)

62. (New) A method for automatically directing data, comprising the steps of:
providing a set of protection paths in a computer network;
determining data traffic demands of the computer network; and
automatically directing data through a set of primary paths and the set of protection paths
in the computer network based on the determined traffic demands.

63. (New) A method for automatically directing data, comprising the steps of:
determining data traffic demands of a computer network;
automatically directing data in the computer network based on the determined traffic
demands; and
minimizing an intervention of electrical devices when routing wavelengths either
individually or in groups.